

MARVEL

004

JAMES PATTERSON

MAX RIDE

ULTIMATE FLIGHT



**HOUSER
SILVA
UNDERWOOD
WONG
ROSENBERG**

MAXIMUM RIDE DOESN'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT HER PAST.

SHE KNOWS ABOUT THE **LAB** WHERE SHE WAS GIVEN WINGS AND THE ABILITY TO FLY. SHE KNOWS ABOUT **JEB**, THE MAN WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR EXPERIMENTING ON HER. SHE KNOWS THAT SHE HAS TO PROTECT THE REST OF **THE FLOCK** -- FANG, NUDGE, IGGY, GASMAN, AND ANGEL -- AT ALL COSTS.

AND SHE KNOWS THAT SHE HAS ONE MISSION: TO SAVE THE WORLD.

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ADAPTED FROM THE NOVEL, *MAXIMUM RIDE: SCHOOL'S OUT FOREVER*, BY JAMES PATTERSON



THE **FLOCK** HAS ENJOYED HAVING A CHANCE AT A NORMAL LIFE, GOING TO SCHOOL AND BEING SPOILED BY **ANNE**, THE FBI AGENT WHO TOOK THEM IN.

BUT **MAXIMUM RIDE** HAS VOWED TO HELP THE FLOCK FIND THEIR BIOLOGICAL FAMILIES, AND THE SUCCESS OF FINDING **IGGY'S** PARENTS HURT HER MORE THAN SHE EXPECTED.

UNABLE TO EXPLAIN IGGY'S DISAPPEARANCE, THE FLOCK ATTRACTED FURTHER UNWANTED ATTENTION AT SCHOOL. DANGER SET IN WHEN IT WAS UNCOVERED THEY HAD BEEN AMONG **ERASERS** THE WHOLE TIME.

FLEEING HOME TO RESCUE **TOTAL**, MAXIMUM RIDE WAS REMINDED WHY SHE CAN'T TRUST ANYONE OUTSIDE HER FAMILY: ANNE WAS AN ENEMY ALL ALONG...

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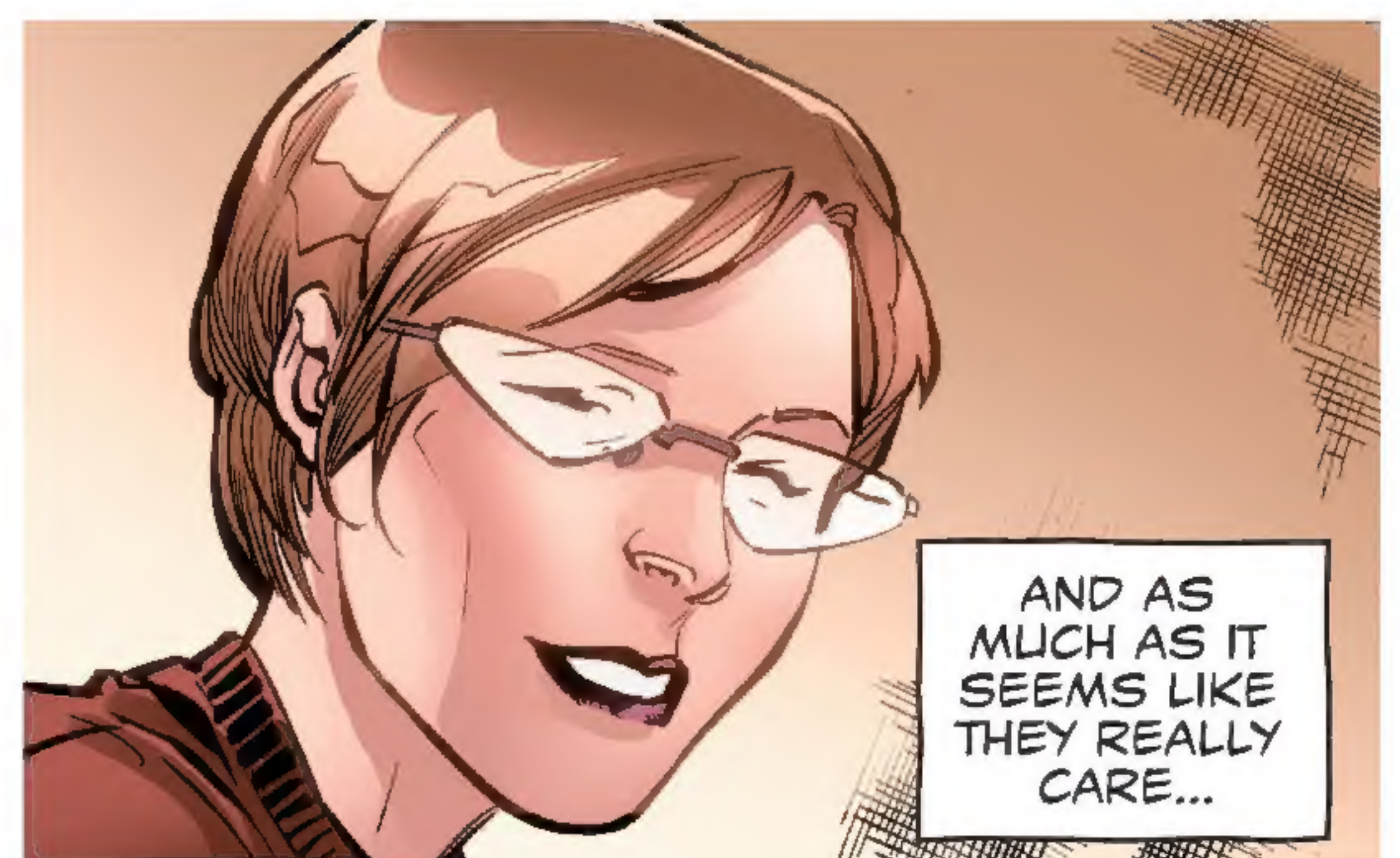
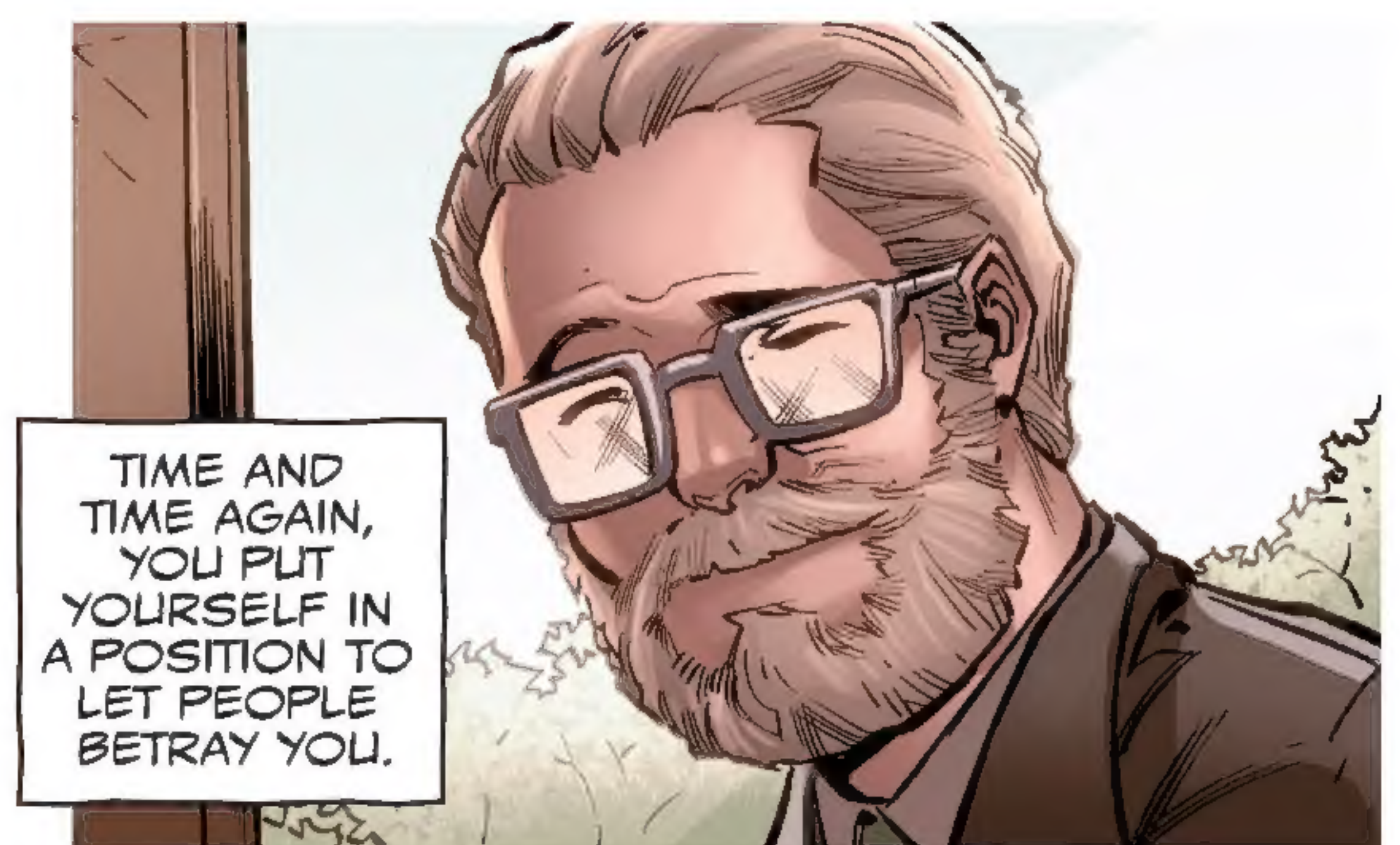
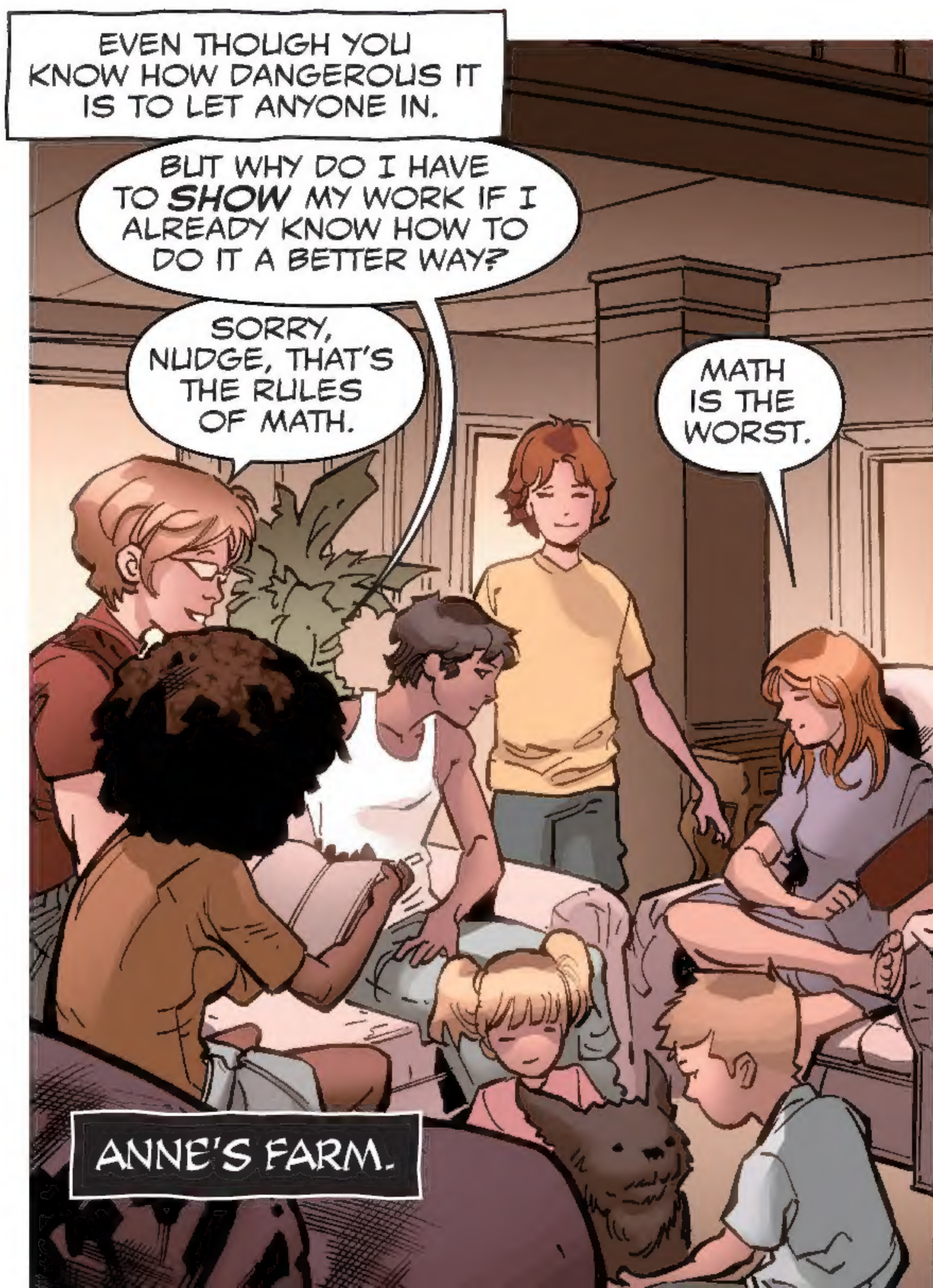
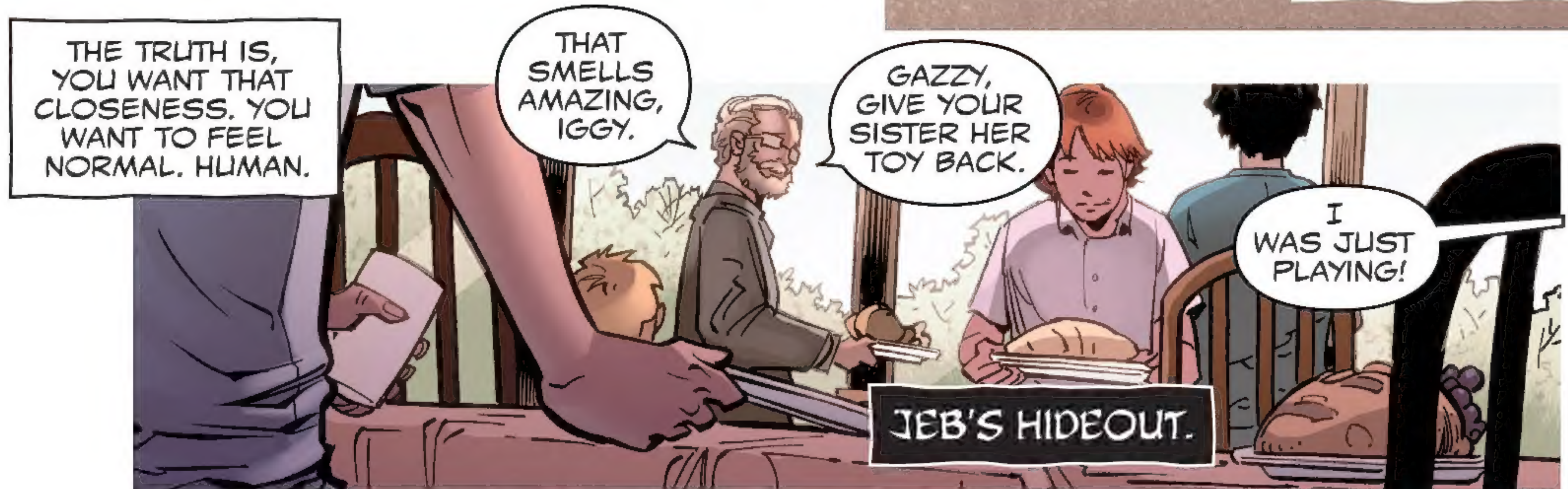
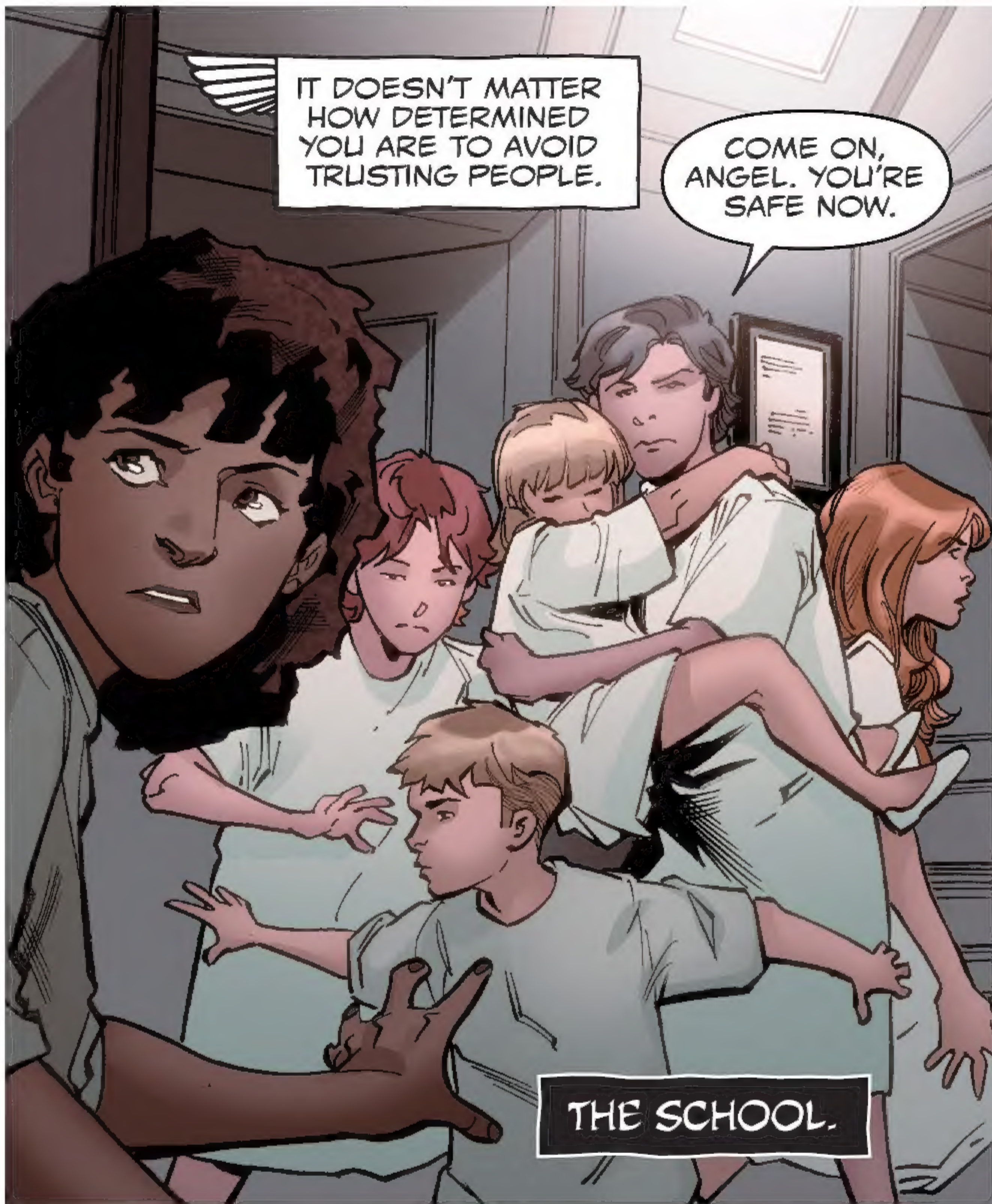
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...THEY ALWAYS
HAVE OTHER,
DARKER MOTIVES
IN THE END.

MAX.
LET'S CALM
DOWN AND--

WE'RE
DONE
LISTENING TO
YOU, JEB! BOTH
OF YOU!

IT'S OKAY.
YOU'RE SAFE HERE.
YOU'VE ALWAYS
BEEN SAFE.

REMEMBER
HOW HAPPY
YOU'VE ALL BEEN?
WE'RE A **FAMILY**.
THAT'S REAL.

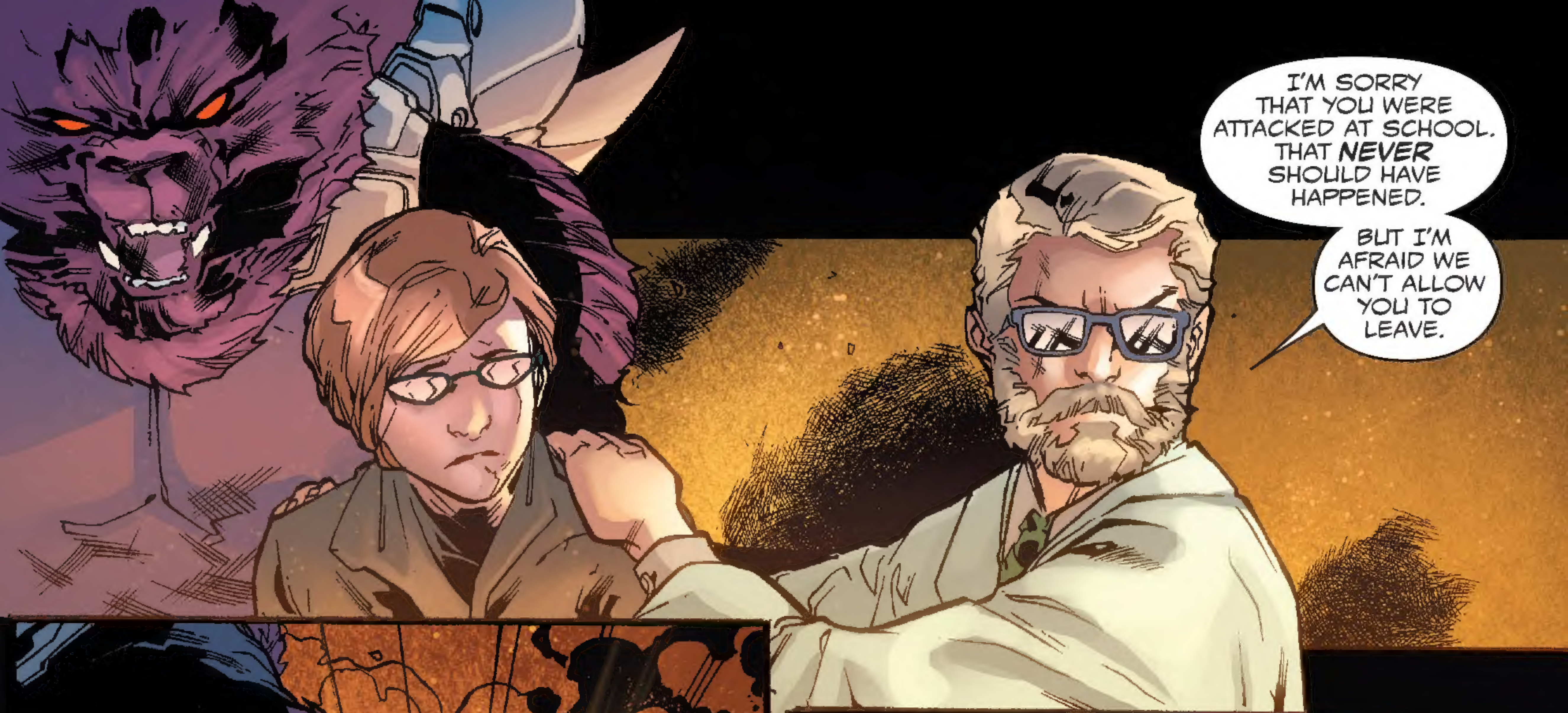
HOW CAN
YOU EXPECT US
TO BELIEVE A WORD YOU
SAY EVER AGAIN?! YOU'VE
LIED TO US SINCE WE
MET YOU, ANNE!

WE
HATE
YOU.

ALL
OF US!

MAYBE
THERE'S SOME
TRUTH MIXED IN
WITH THE LIES.

JUST MAKES
IT EASIER TO
HIT BACK.



I'M SORRY THAT YOU WERE ATTACKED AT SCHOOL. THAT **NEVER** SHOULD HAVE HAPPENED.

BUT I'M AFRAID WE CAN'T ALLOW YOU TO LEAVE.



WE'RE **DONE** BEING YOUR PRISONERS!



LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO FIGHT OUR WAY OUT. YOU GUYS READY?

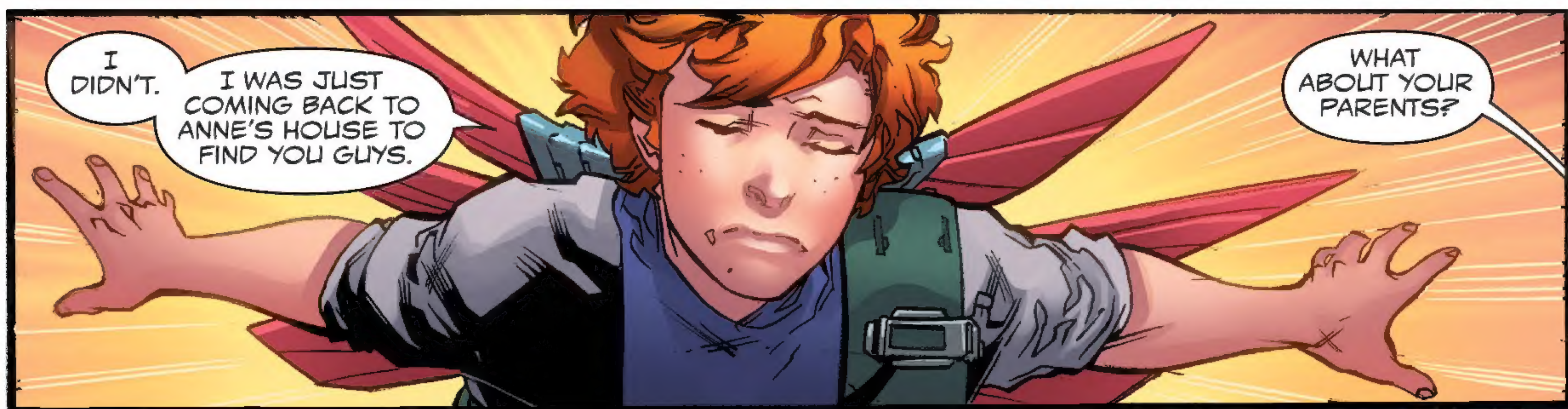
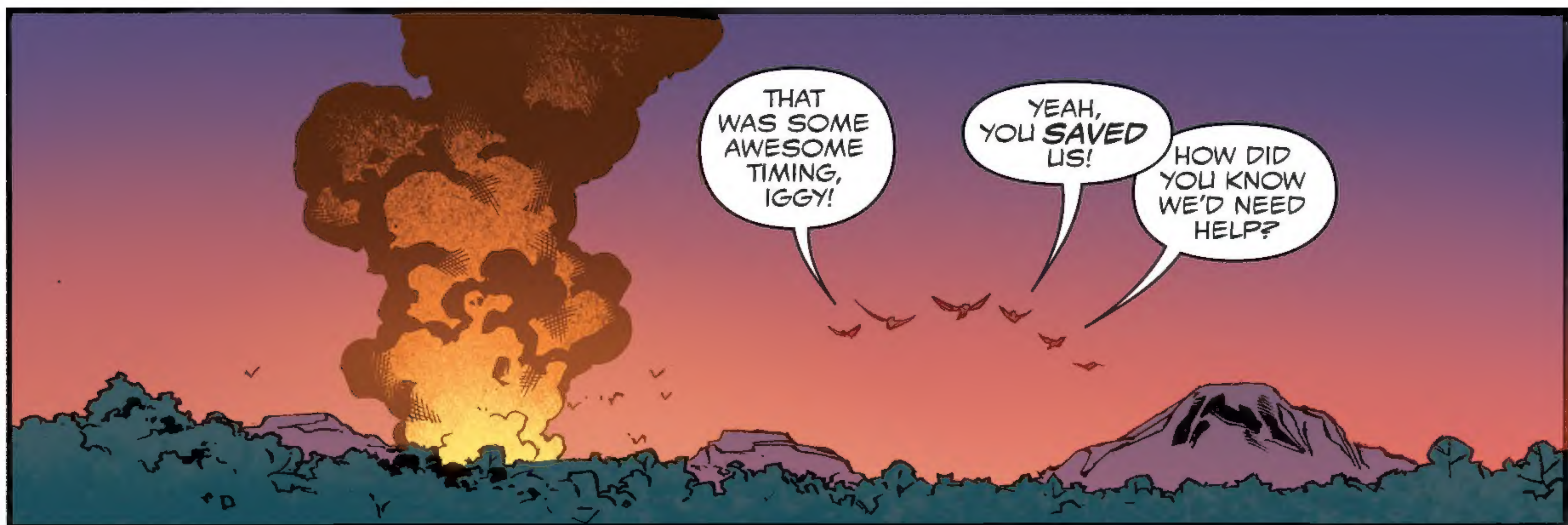
TO KICK SOME ERASER BUTT? ALWAYS!



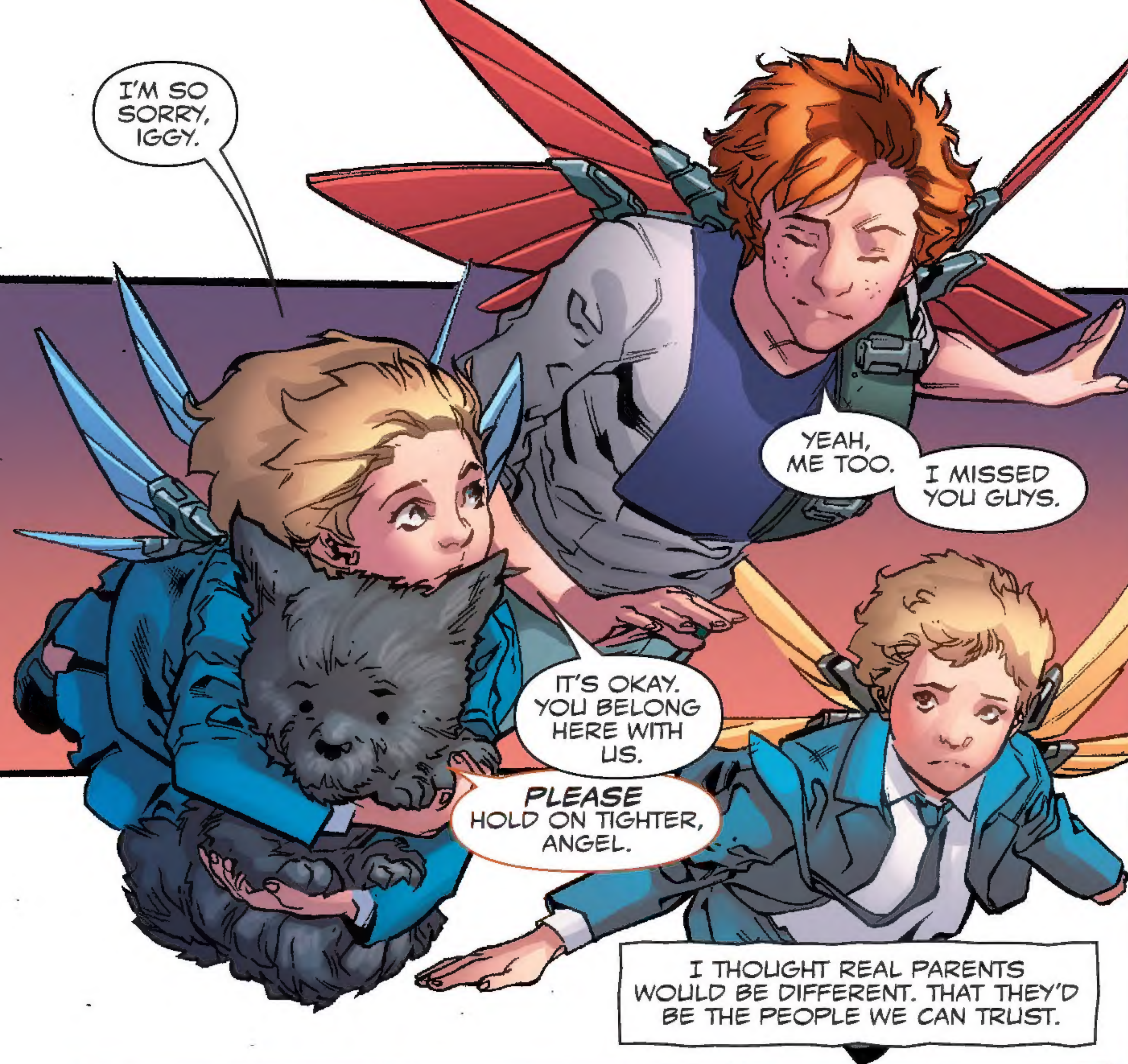
BAMF

WHAT THE HECK?!



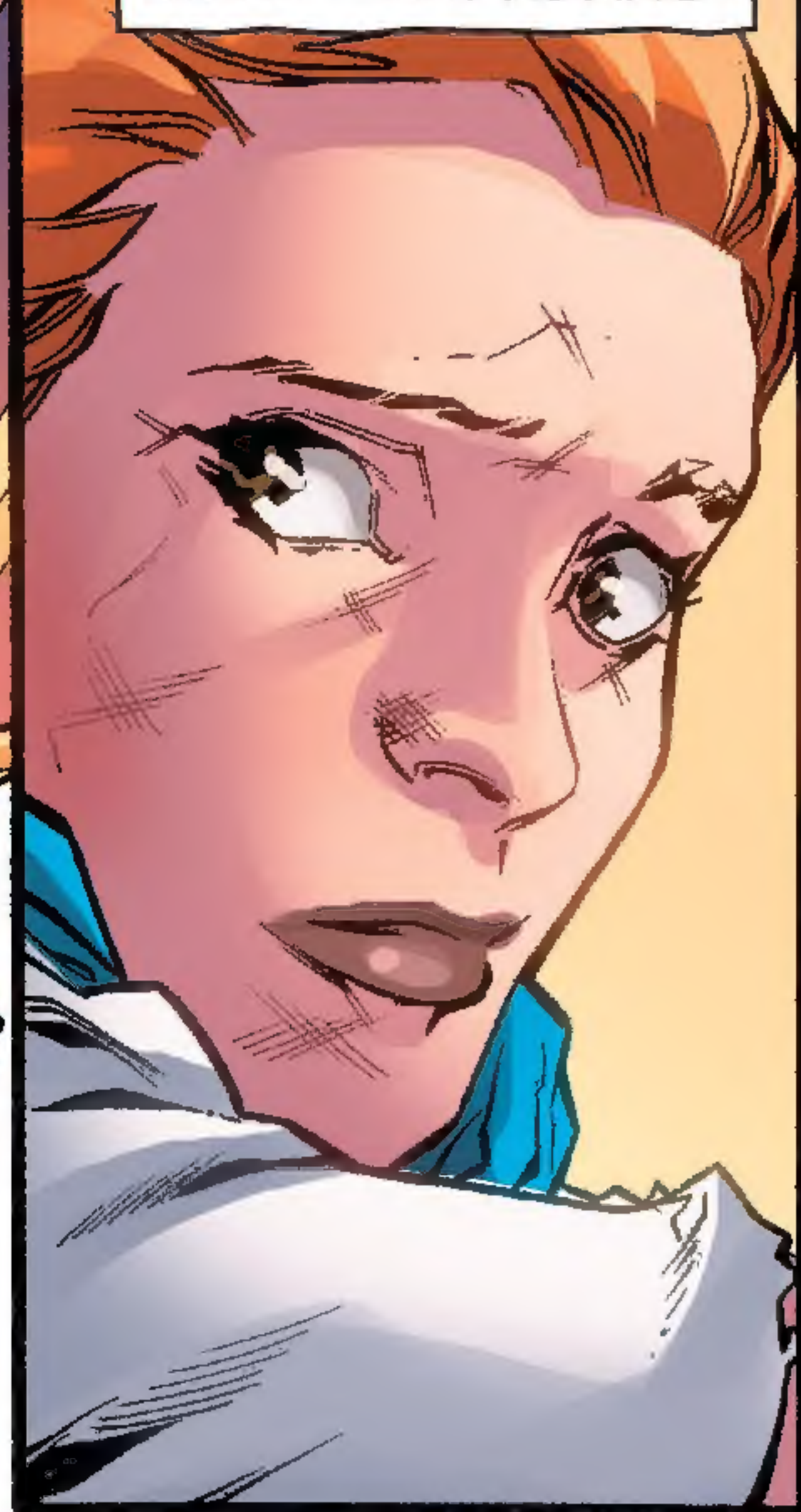




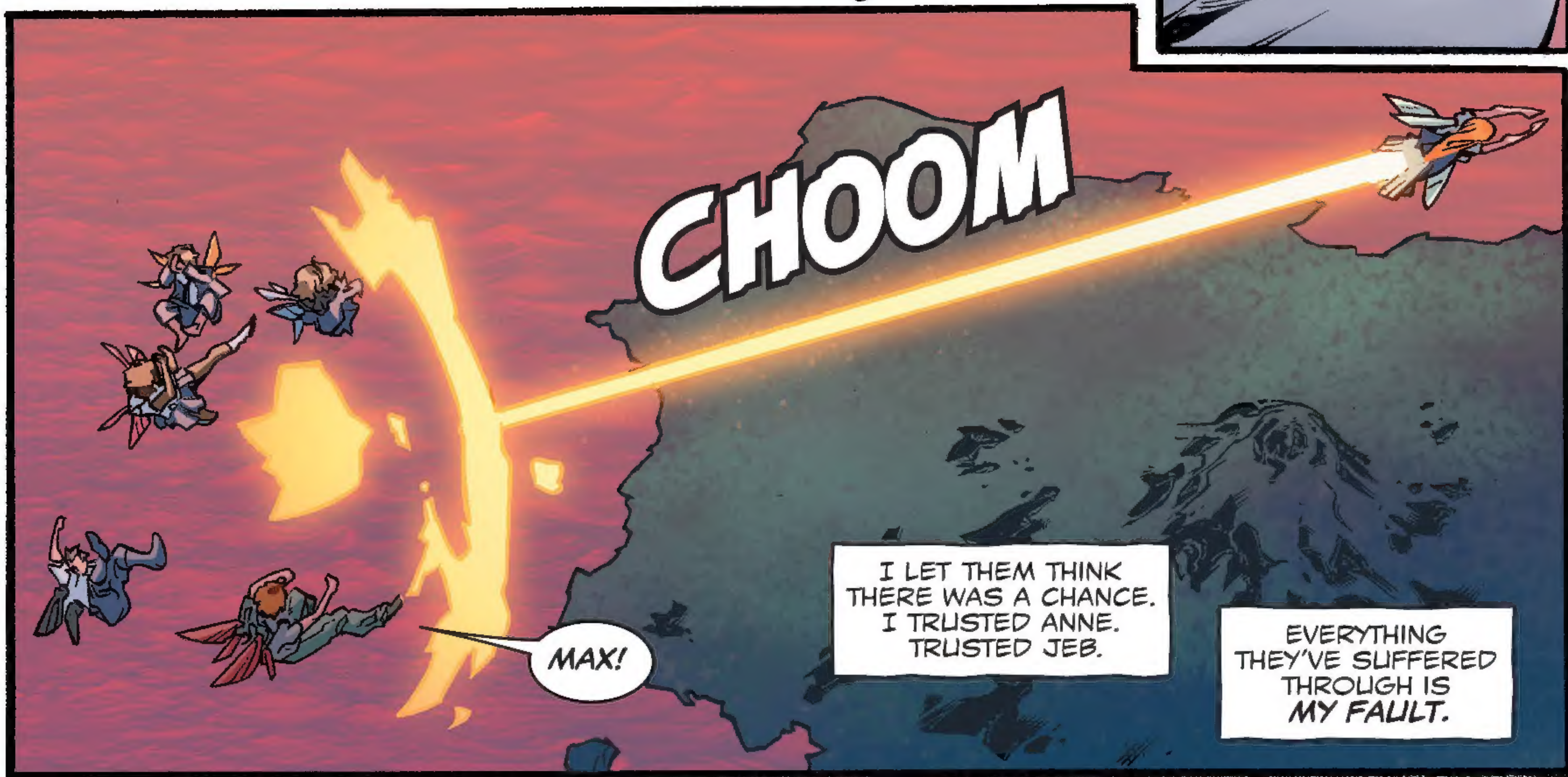


BUT IT DOESN'T
MATTER IF THEY'RE
BLOOD OR NOT.
ADULTS WILL NEVER
STOP USING US.

THEY'LL NEVER SEE
US AS ANYTHING
MORE THAN **FREAKS**.

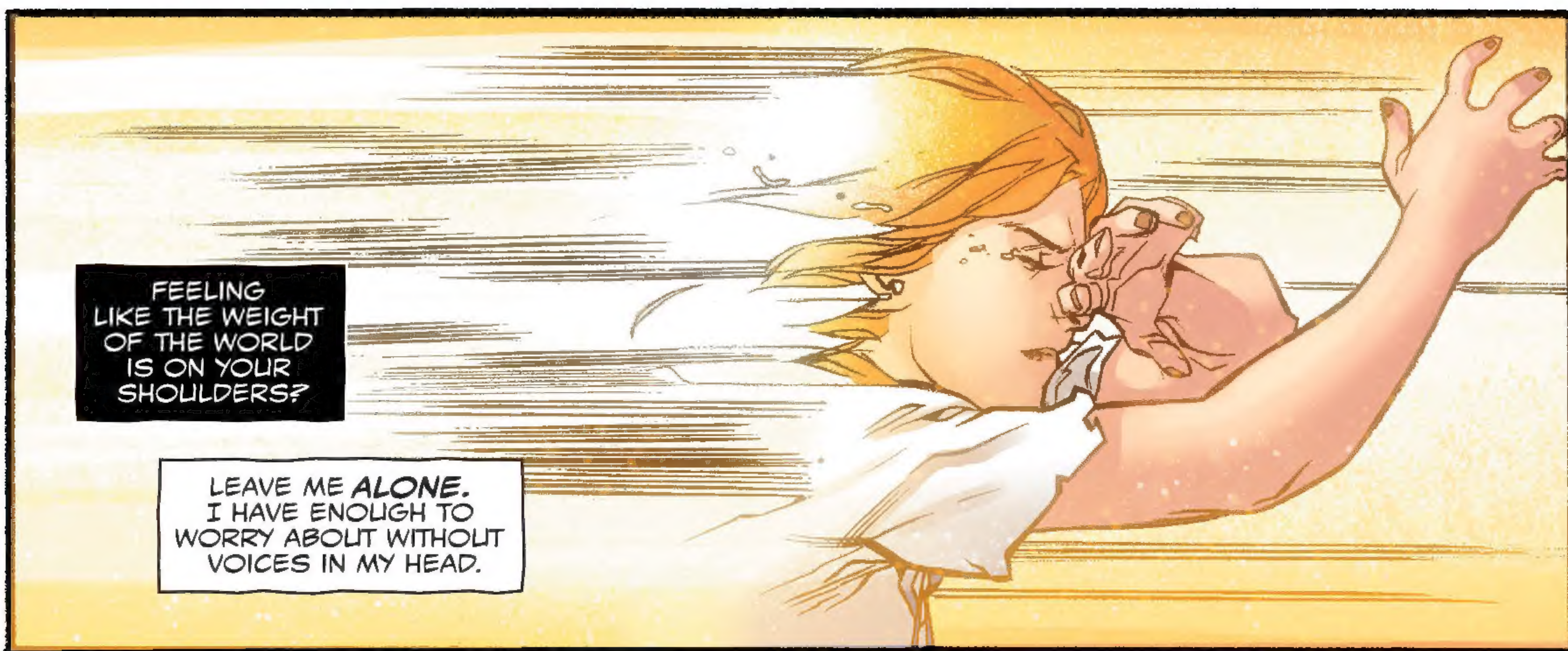


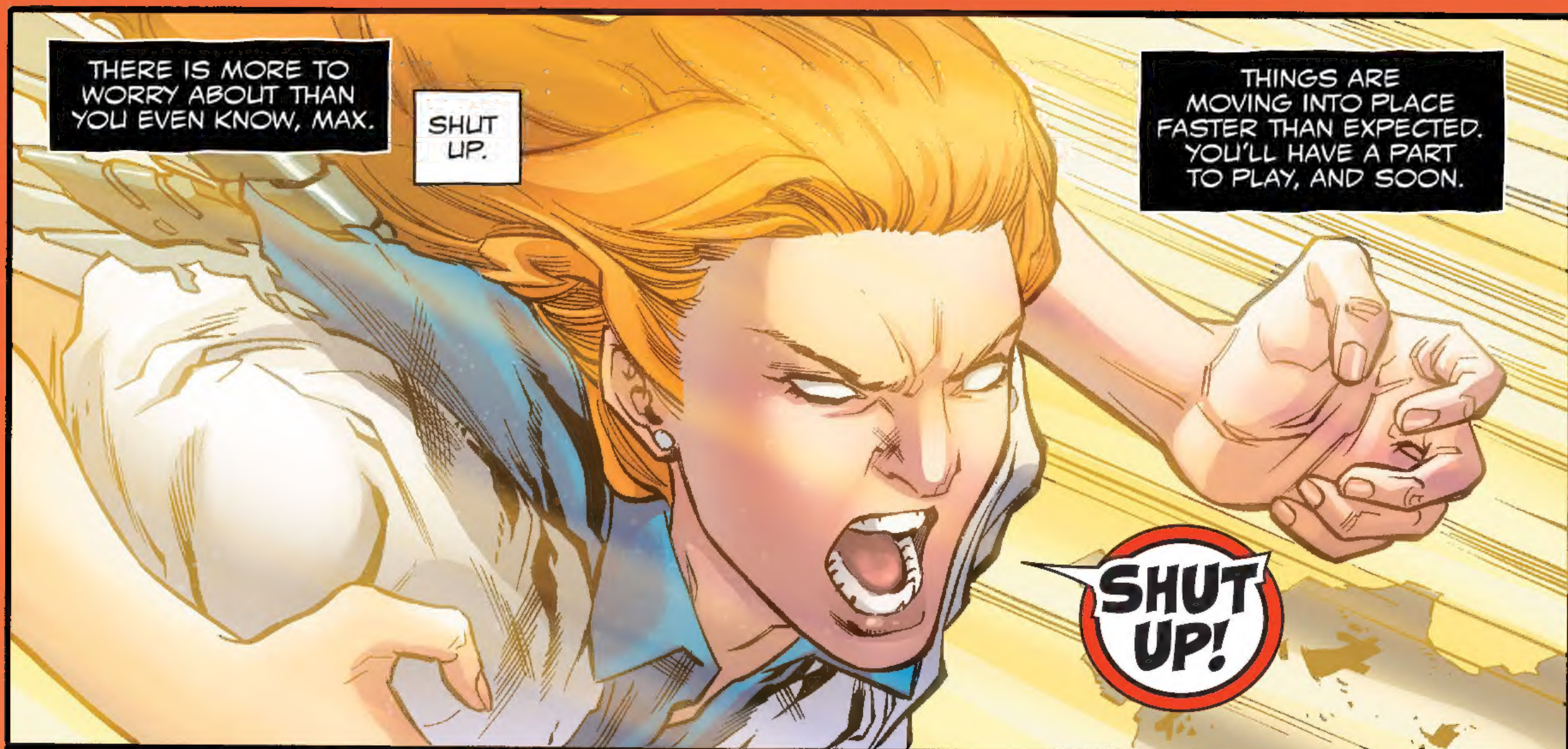
CHOOM



FEELING
LIKE THE WEIGHT
OF THE WORLD
IS ON YOUR
SHOULDERS?

LEAVE ME **ALONE**.
I HAVE ENOUGH TO
WORRY ABOUT WITHOUT
VOICES IN MY HEAD.



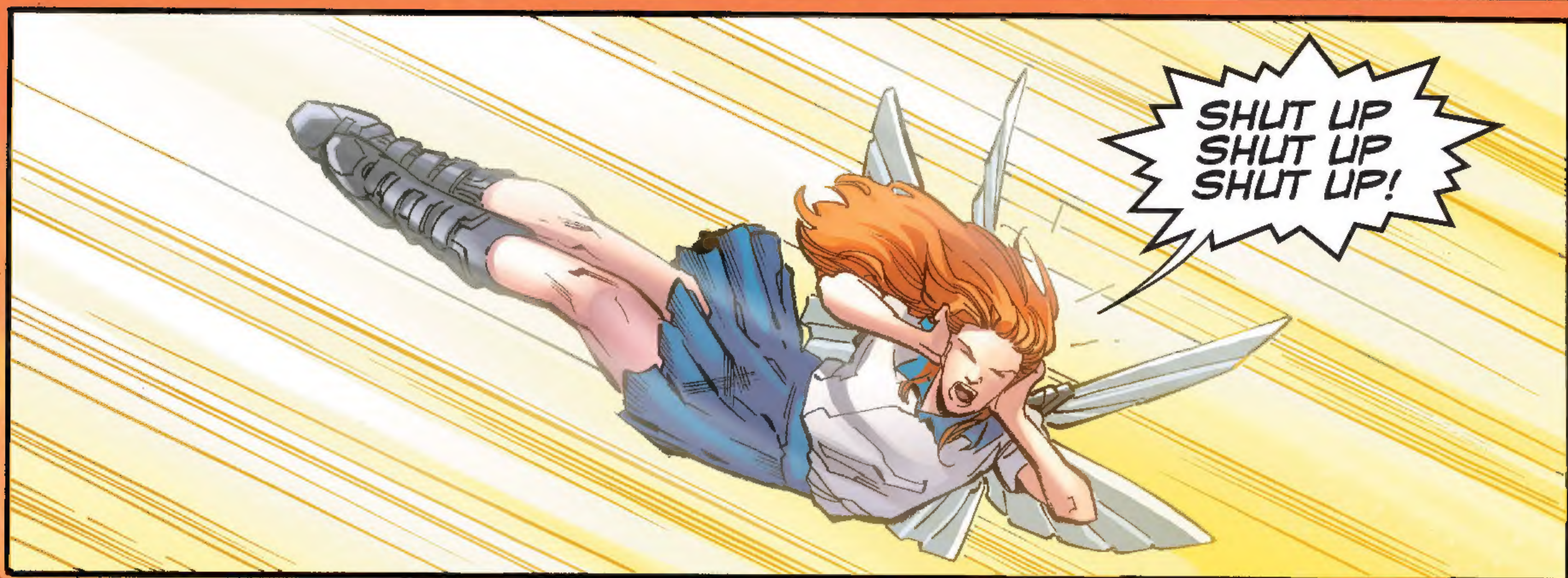


THERE IS MORE TO WORRY ABOUT THAN YOU EVEN KNOW, MAX.

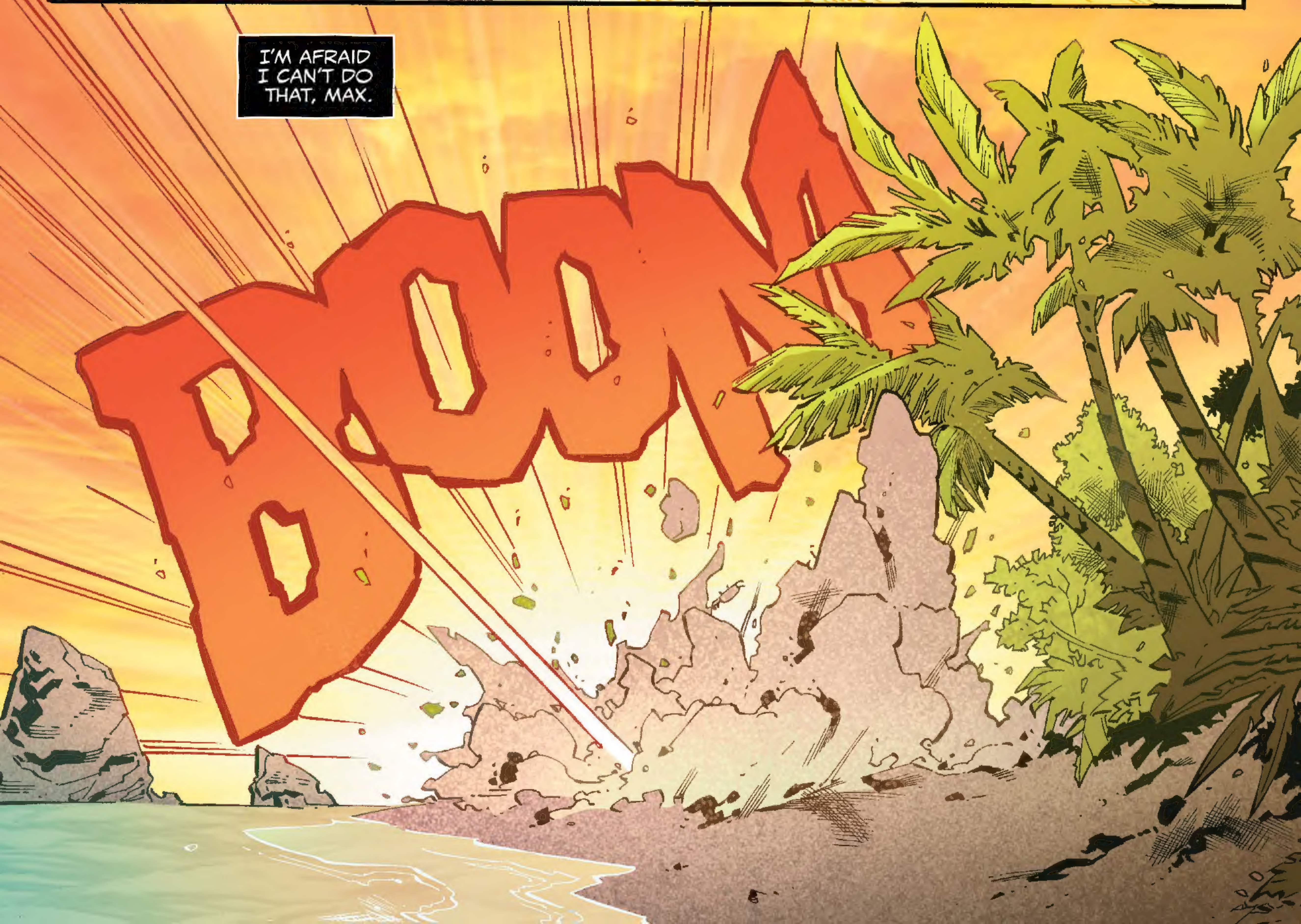
SHUT UP.

THINGS ARE MOVING INTO PLACE FASTER THAN EXPECTED. YOU'LL HAVE A PART TO PLAY, AND SOON.

SHUT UP!



**SHUT UP
SHUT UP
SHUT UP!**



I'M AFRAID I CAN'T DO THAT, MAX.

WHO ARE YOU? WHAT IS IT YOU WANT FROM ME? HOW ARE YOU IN MY HEAD?

ANSWERS WOULD ONLY DISTRACT YOU RIGHT NOW. YOU'LL UNDERSTAND WHEN IT'S TIME.

IS THE TRUTH REALLY MORE IMPORTANT THAN SAVING THE PEOPLE YOU CARE ABOUT?

THE FLOCK YOU MADE. THE BOY FROM SCHOOL YOU KISSED. THE DOCTOR WHO MADE YOU COOKIES.

THEY FOUGHT ALONGSIDE YOU. HELPED YOU WHEN YOU WERE HURT.

IS LEARNING ABOUT ME MORE IMPORTANT THAN SAVING THEM?

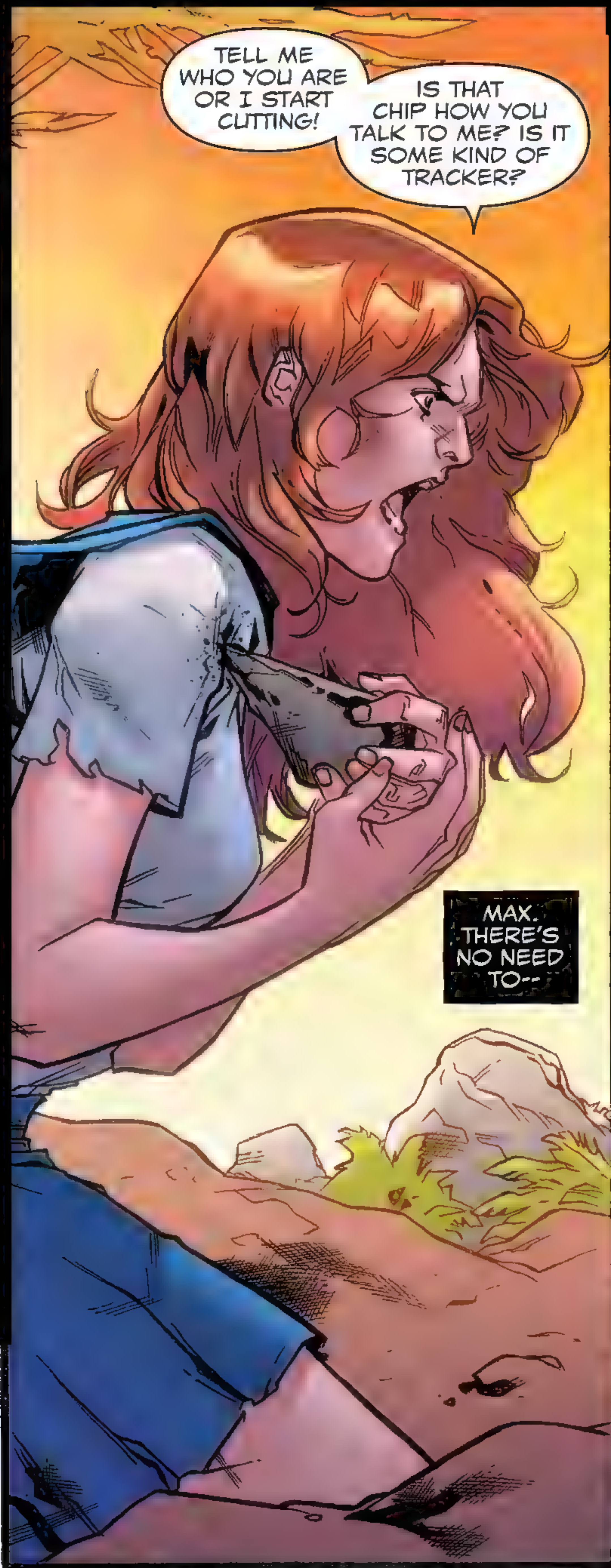
THE VOICE ISN'T WRONG. THERE ARE PEOPLE I CARE ABOUT, EVEN OUTSIDE OF THE FLOCK.

BUT IF I DON'T KNOW HOW THE ERASERS FIND US, AREN'T I JUST PUTTING THEM IN DANGER?

"WAIT. THE DOCTOR WHO MADE YOU COOKIES." DR. MARTINEZ...

SHE TOOK X-RAYS WHEN I WAS HURT. FOUND SOME SORT OF CHIP IN MY ARM...

...COULD THAT BE WHAT'S CAUSING ALL OF THIS?



TELL ME
WHO YOU ARE
OR I START
CUTTING!

IS THAT
CHIP HOW YOU
TALK TO ME? IS IT
SOME KIND OF
TRACKER?

MAX.
THERE'S
NO NEED
TO--



NO!
YOU'RE **NOT**
IN CONTROL
HERE!

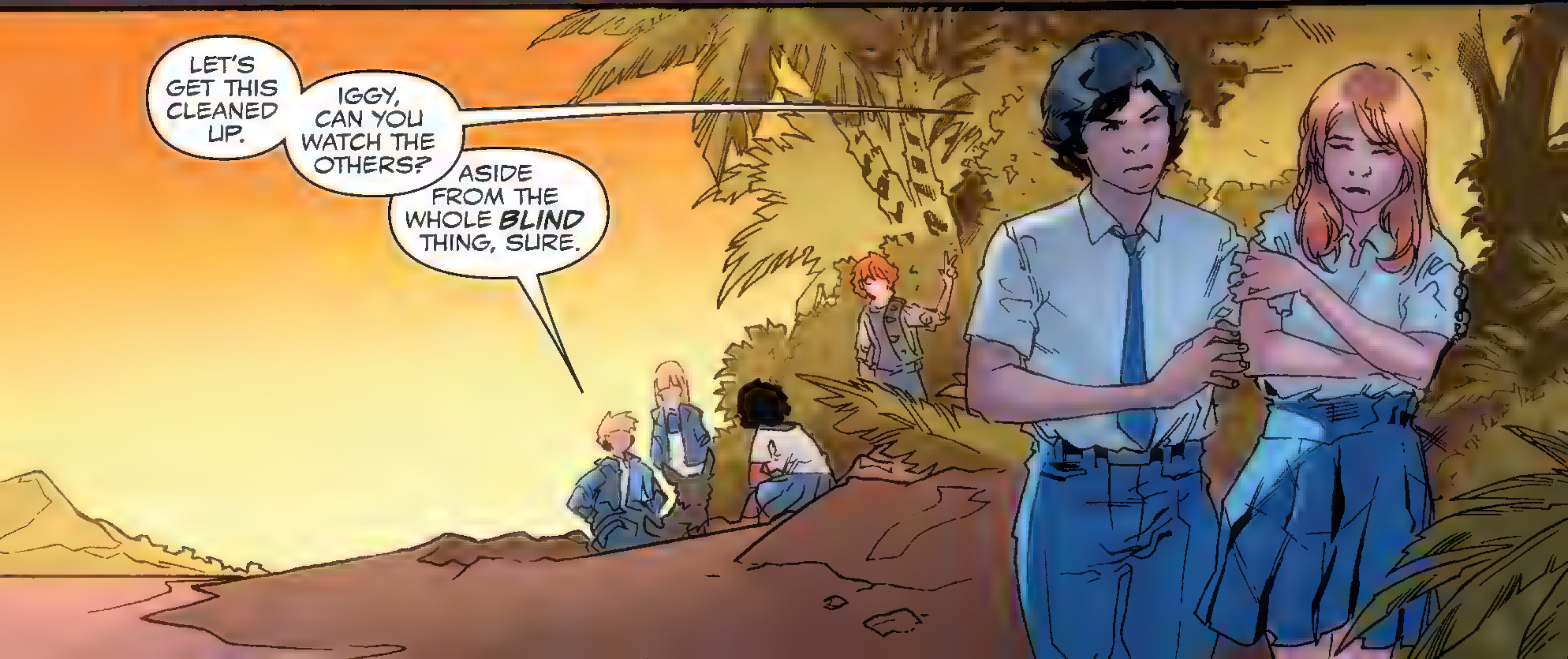
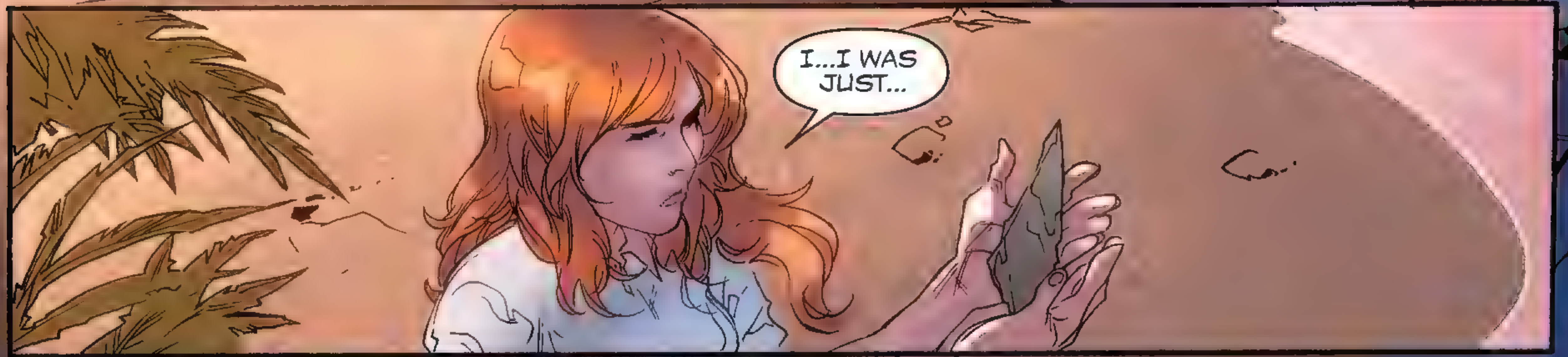


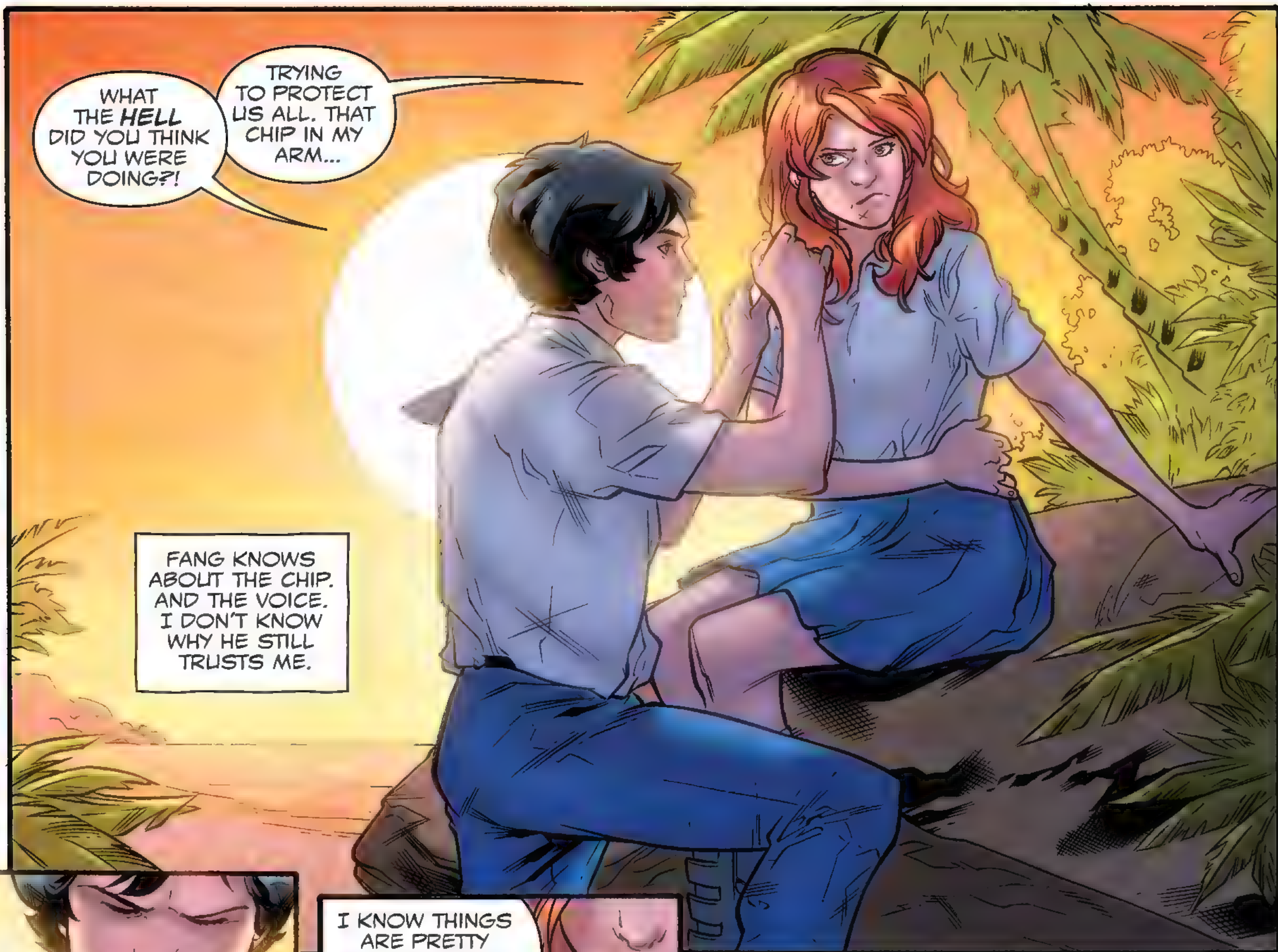
I'M
NOT YOUR
PLAYTHING! AND
I'M **NOT** YOUR
WEAPON!



HURTING
YOURSELF
SOLVES
NOTHING.

SHUT UP!
YOU CAN'T
TELL ME--





WHAT THE **HELL** DID YOU THINK YOU WERE DOING?!

TRYING TO PROTECT US ALL. THAT CHIP IN MY ARM...

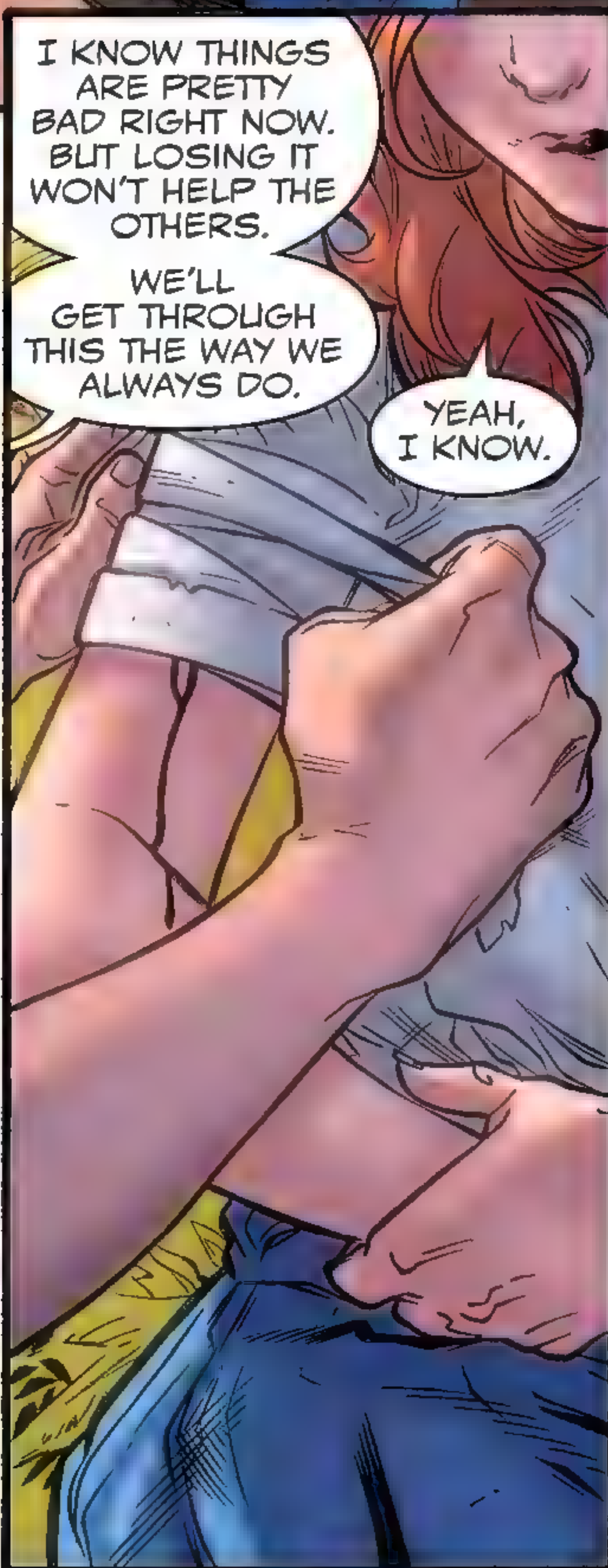
FANG KNOWS ABOUT THE CHIP. AND THE VOICE. I DON'T KNOW WHY HE STILL TRUSTS ME.



SO, SELF-SURGERY ON A BEACH. WITH A ROCK. AFTER WE JUST SPENT MONTHS AT A HOUSE FULL OF **ACTUAL KNIVES**.

IT'S THE **VOICE**. IT WAS JUST GOING ON AND ON, AND...

I JUST WANTED IT TO **STOP!**



I KNOW THINGS ARE PRETTY BAD RIGHT NOW. BUT LOSING IT WON'T HELP THE OTHERS.

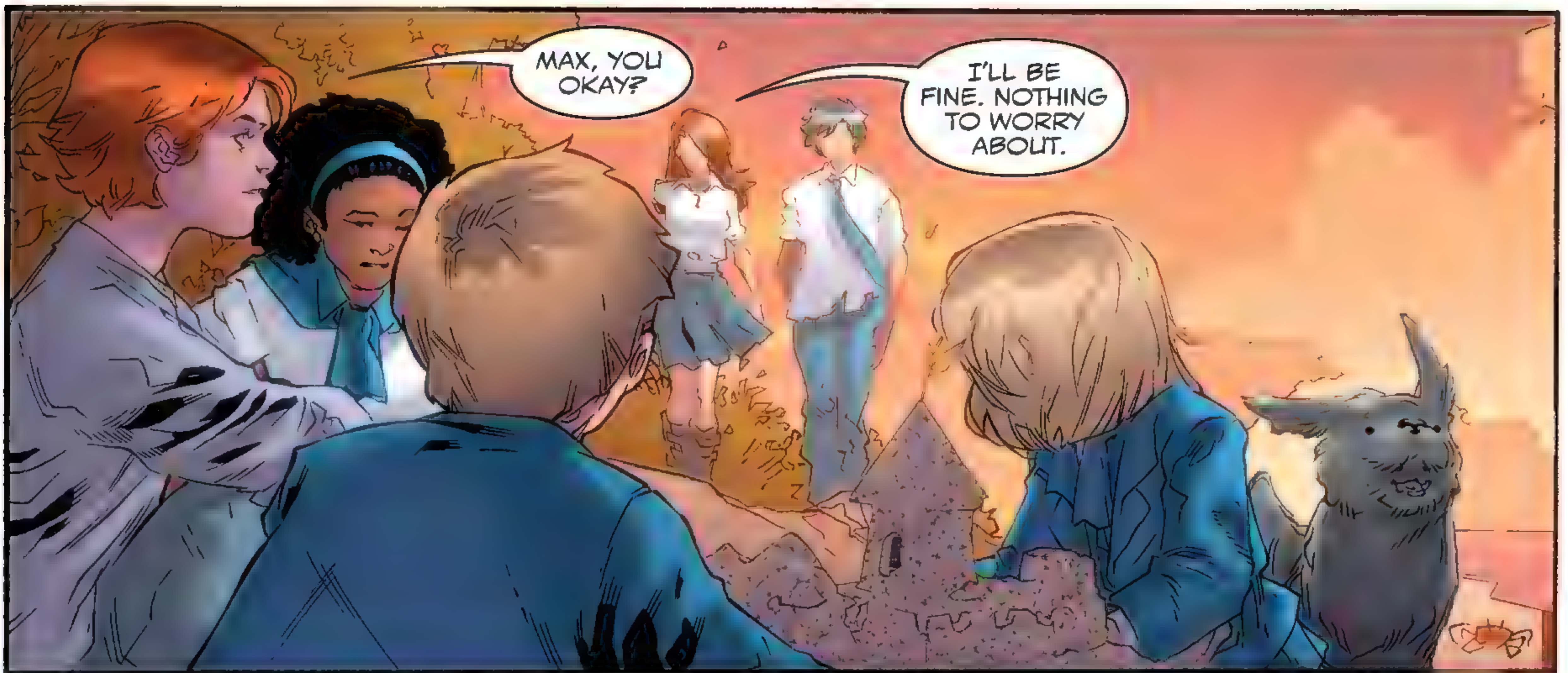
WE'LL GET THROUGH THIS THE WAY WE ALWAYS DO.

YEAH, I KNOW.



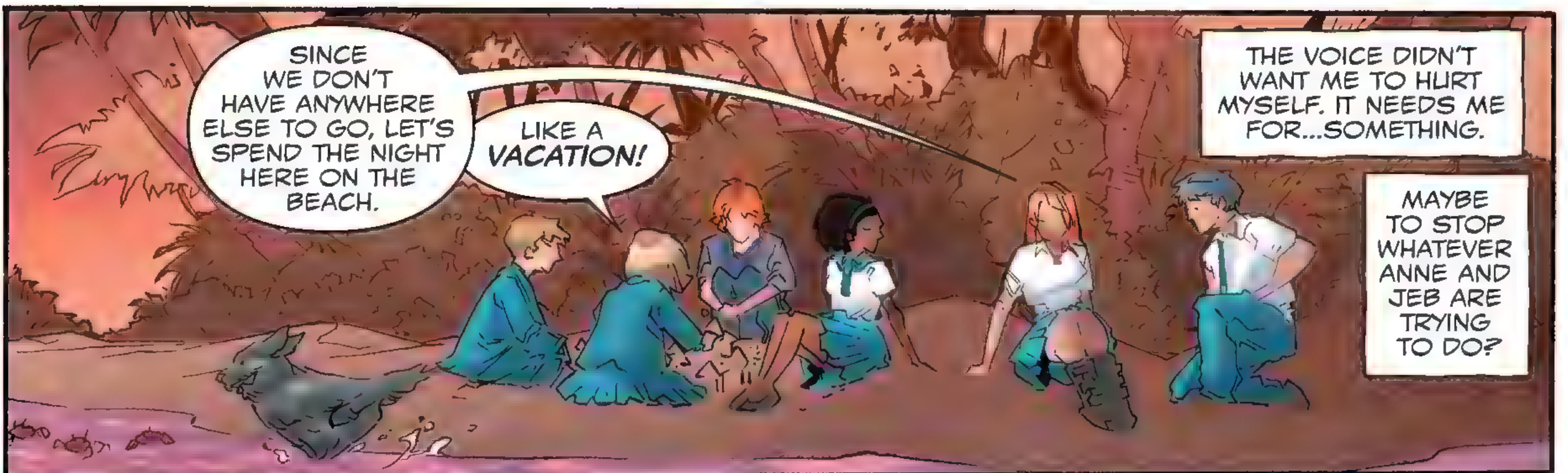
BESIDES, HOW ARE YOU GOING TO PUNCH ERASERS IF YOU LOSE YOUR ARM?

THAT'S WHY I HAVE TWO.



MAX, YOU
OKAY?

I'LL BE
FINE. NOTHING
TO WORRY
ABOUT.



SINCE
WE DON'T
HAVE ANYWHERE
ELSE TO GO, LET'S
SPEND THE NIGHT
HERE ON THE
BEACH.

LIKE A
VACATION!

THE VOICE DIDN'T
WANT ME TO HURT
MYSELF. IT NEEDS ME
FOR...SOMETHING.

MAYBE
TO STOP
WHATEVER
ANNE AND
JEB ARE
TRYING
TO DO?



HOPEFULLY
WE'LL BE SAFE
HERE FOR
ONE NIGHT.

ARE THE
ERASERS
USING DUMB
PHONES SO I
DON'T GET ANY
INFO OFF THEM
OR BECAUSE
THEY'RE **THAT**
STUPID?



THE IMPORTANT THING IS WE'RE ALL TOGETHER AGAIN.

IT'S WAY MORE
FUN MAKING BOMBS
WHEN YOU'RE
HERE, IGGY.

THANKS, GAZZY.
NICEST THING
ANYONE'S EVER
SAID TO
ME.



THAT'S HOW
WE STAY
STRONG.

I JUST
TALKED TO
A **FISH!**



SHH.
YOU'LL WAKE
THEM.

THAT EVENING.

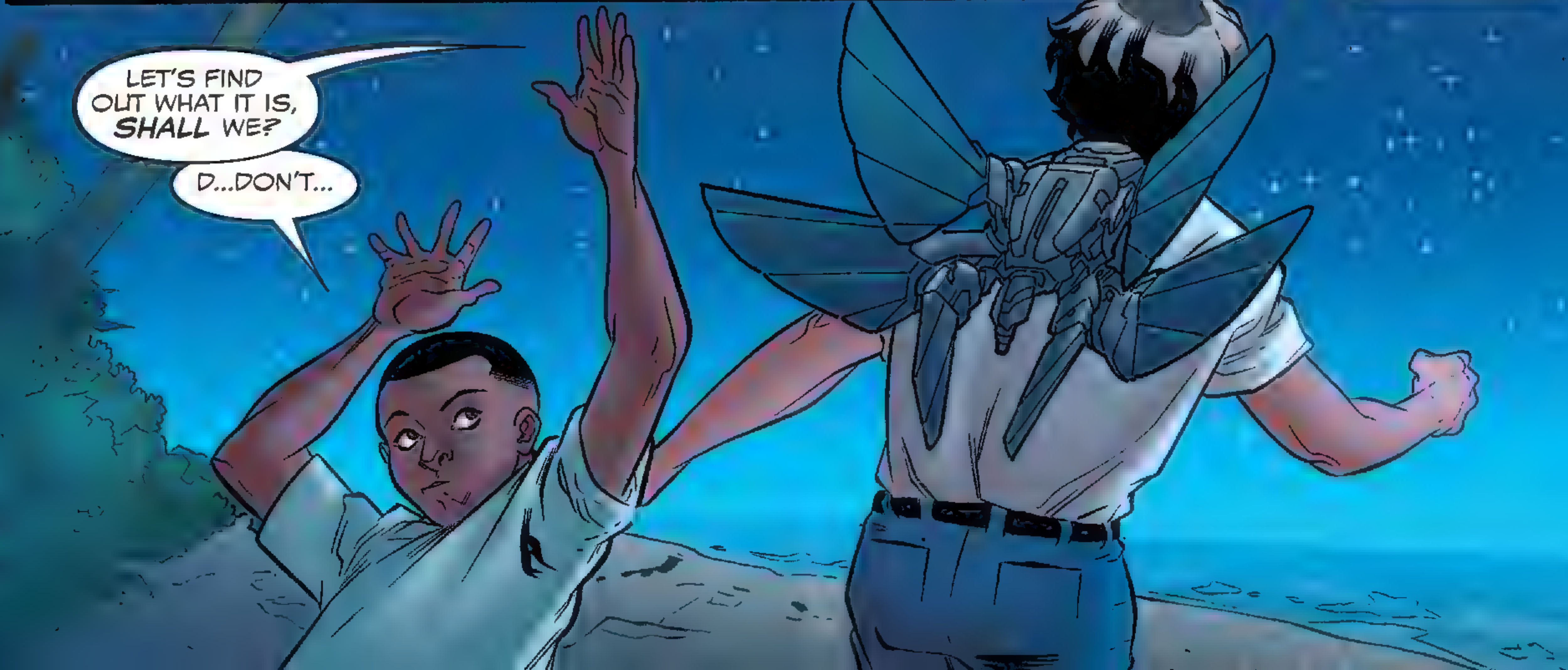
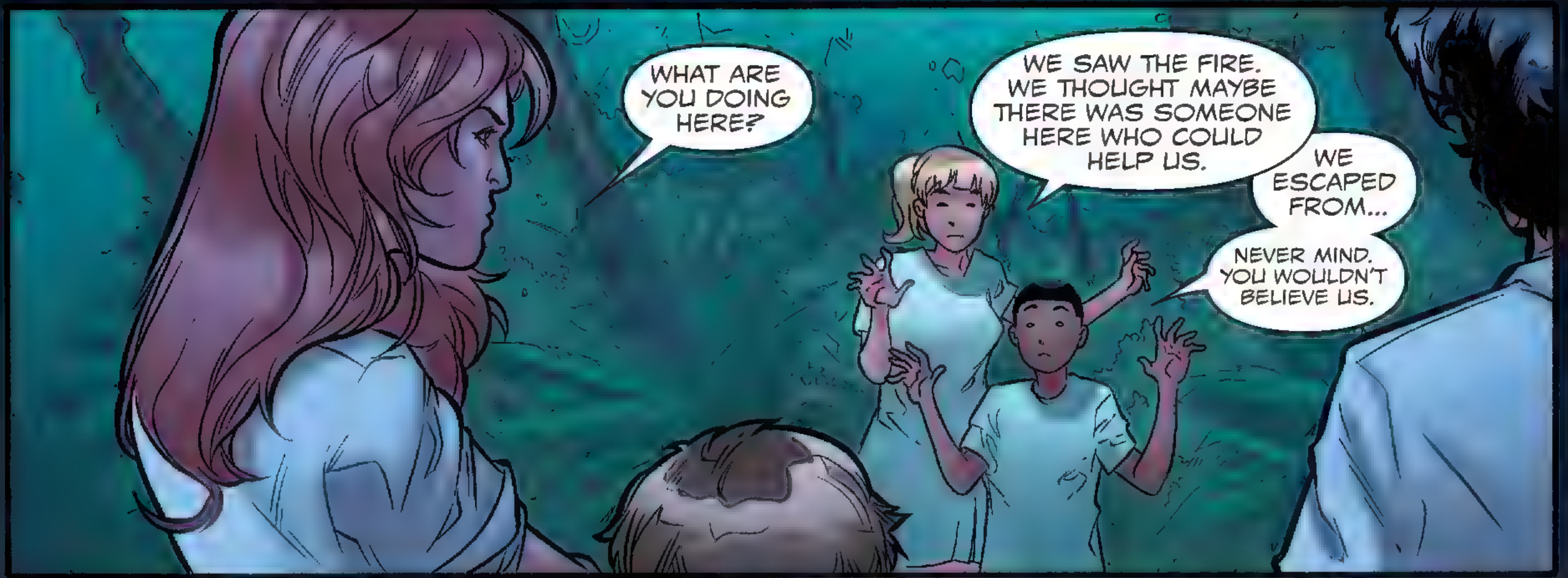
OF *COURSE*
THINGS DIDN'T STAY
QUIET FOR LONG.

HEY!

YOU'RE
NOT AS QUIET
AS YOU THOUGHT
YOU WERE.

WHO ARE
YOU AND *WHY*
ARE YOU SPYING
ON US?

PLEASE...
DON'T HURT
US...





READY
TO SHOW
ME YET?

PLEASE!
STOP! I'LL--

SEE?!
HERE IT IS!
PLEASE DON'T
DROP ME!

THEY
MADE US
DO IT, I
SWEAR!

IS HE
GOING TO
DROP
HIM?

PROBABLY
NOT.

THERE.
SAFE ON THE
GROUND.

KRASH

THAT
WASN'T
SO HARD,
WAS IT?

KRAK



SMART
OF THEM TO
SEND KIDS.

SOMEONE WE WON'T
PUNCH FIRST, ASK
QUESTIONS LATER.



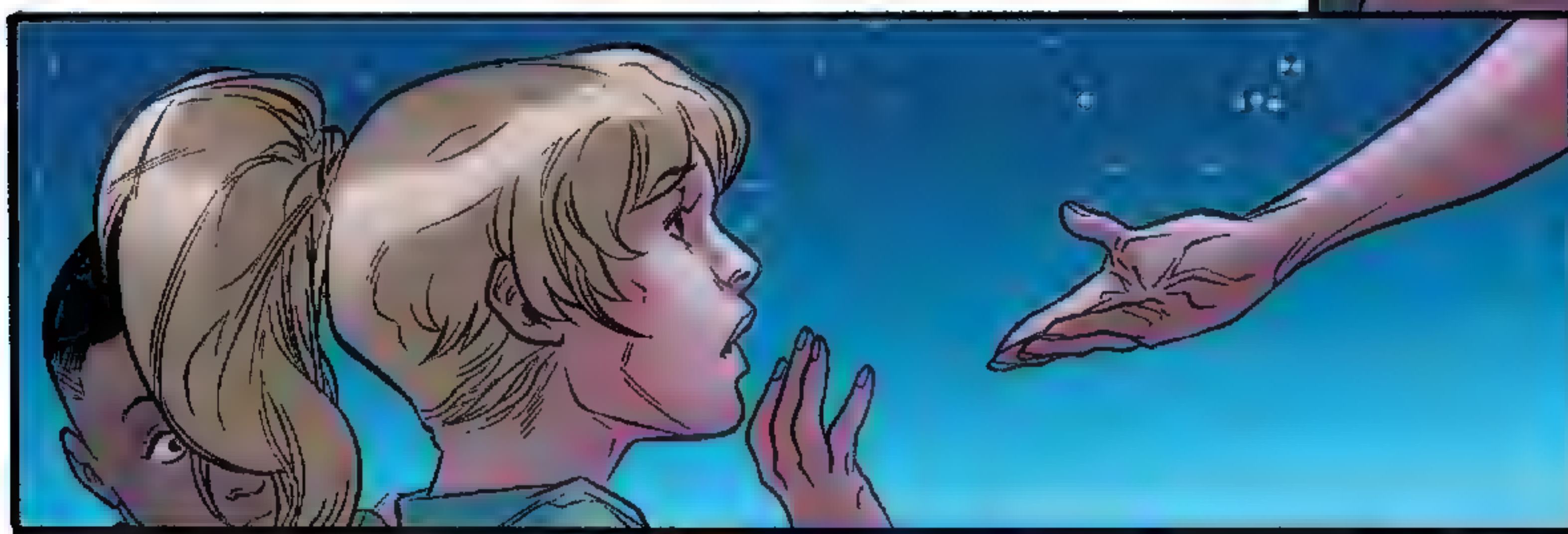
WE'RE NOT GOING TO
HURT YOU. WE **PROMISE**.
WHATEVER THEY TOLD YOU,
WE'RE NOT **MONSTERS**.

THEY'RE YOUNG
ENOUGH THAT
THEY COULD
BE MEMBERS
OF OUR FLOCK.



BUT THE
PEOPLE WHO
SENT YOU, THEY'RE
TRYING TO **HURT**
MY FAMILY.

I **NEED**
TO KNOW
WHO THEY
ARE.

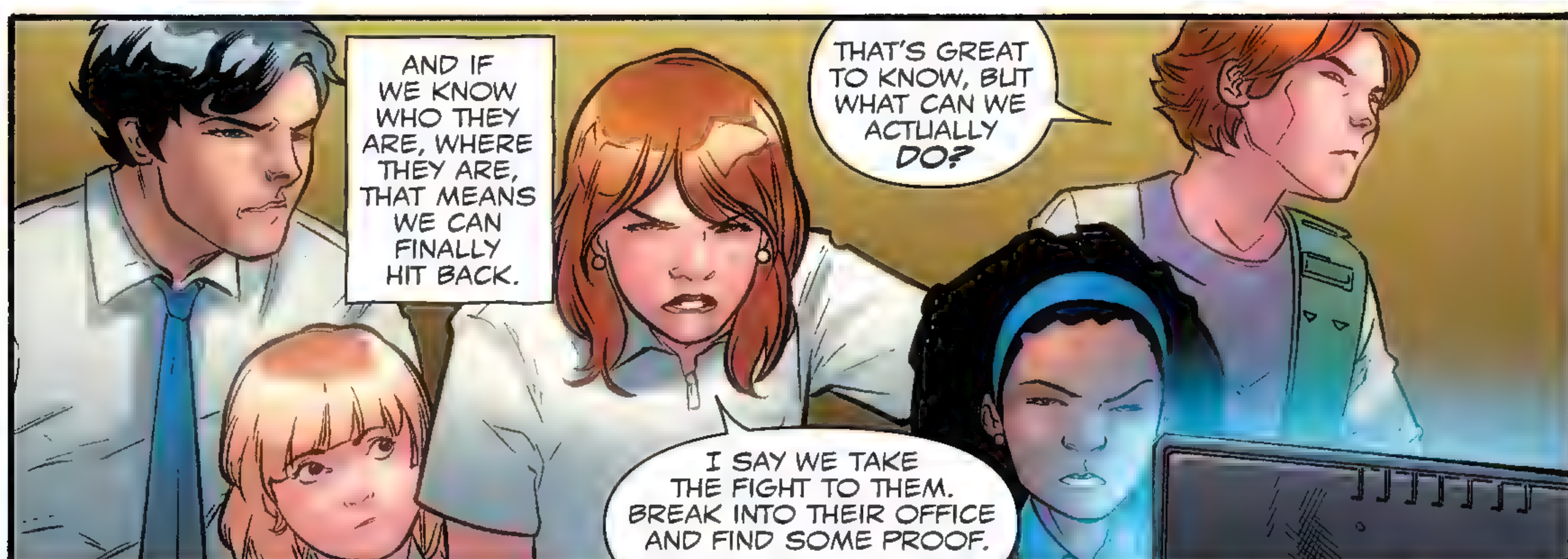


IT'S GOOD THAT THEY'RE
NOT. FOR THEIR SALES.



IT WAS A
BIG BUILDING.
THE SIGN
SAID ITX.

THAT'S
ALL WE KNOW,
I SWEAR.



RUSHING INTO THINGS A BIT QUICKLY, AREN'T YOU?

I THOUGHT THIS IS WHAT YOU WANTED ME TO DO. STOP THE BIG BAD.

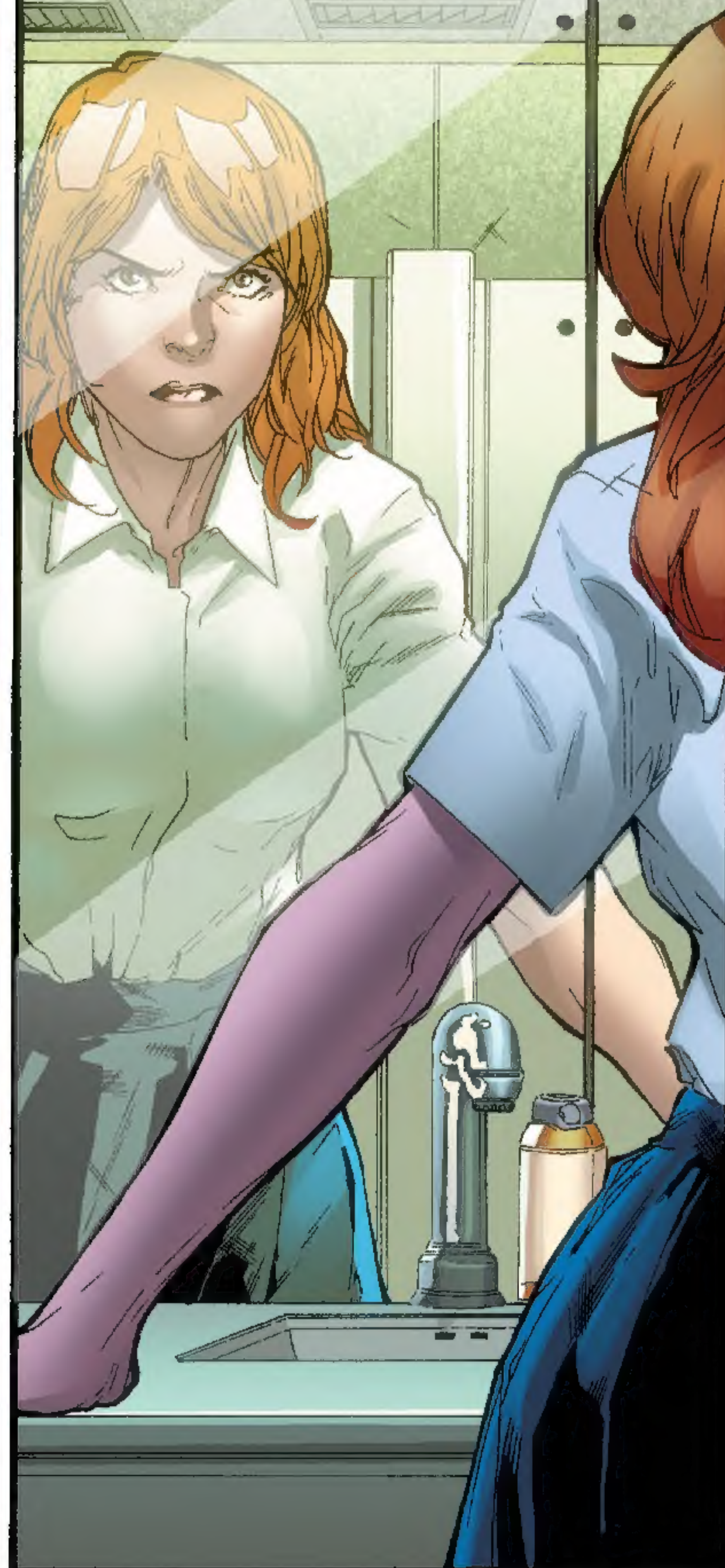
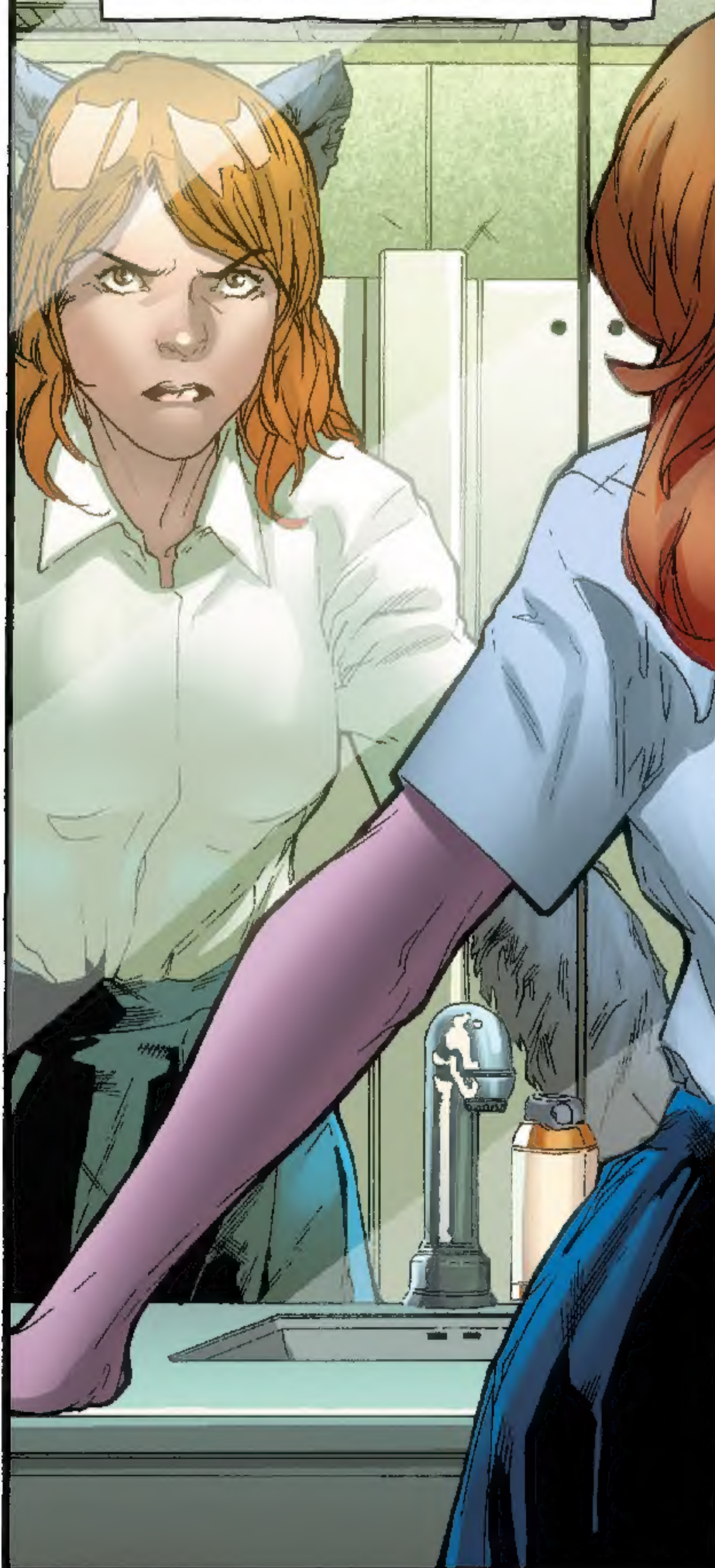
ARE YOU SURE YOU KNOW WHO IT *REALLY* IS?

GUESS WE'RE ABOUT TO FIND OUT IF ITEX IS BEHIND ALL THIS.

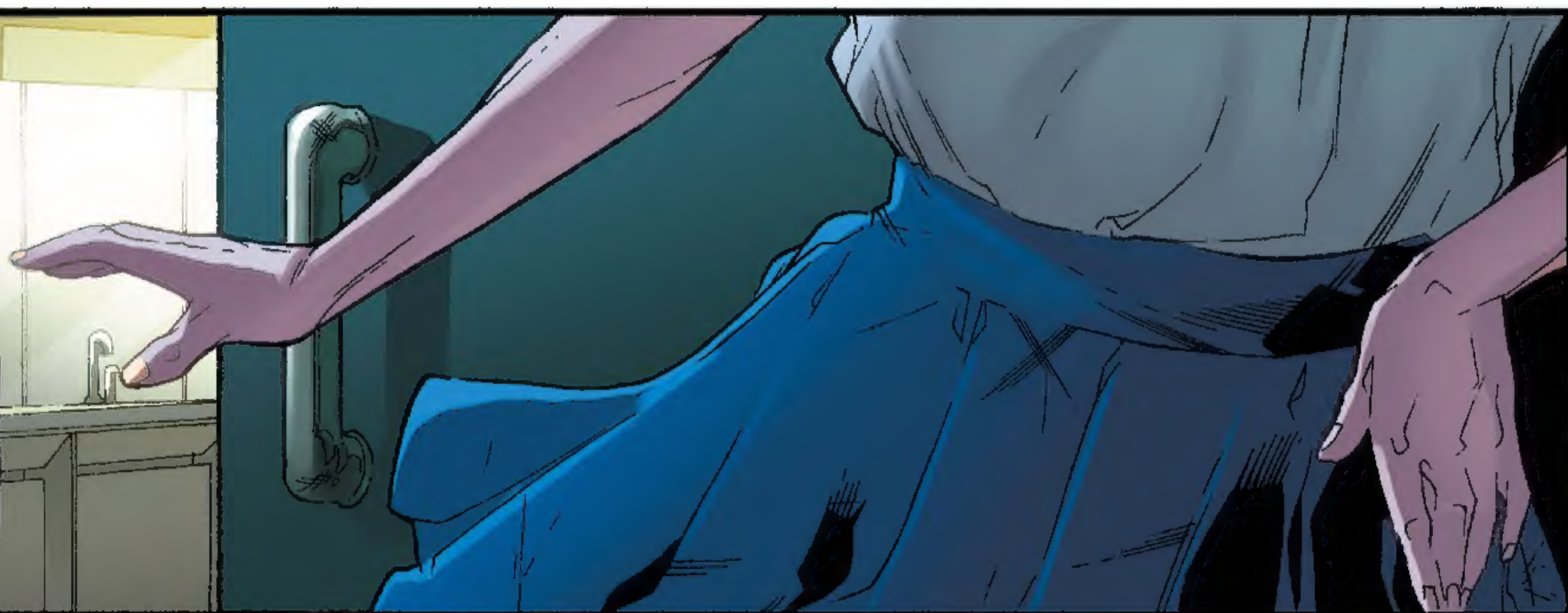
IF I'M REALLY THE MONSTER FROM MY NIGHTMARES.

IT WON'T BE AS EASY AS BREAKING INTO AN OFFICE AND STEALING A FEW FILES, YOU KNOW.

I KNOW. BUT WE HAVE TO START SOMEWHERE.



THEY NEED TO LEARN THEY CAN'T CONTROL US. THEY CAN'T JUST--



MMMPH!





POOR
LITTLE MAX.

WHY DON'T
YOU LET THE NEW,
IMPROVED VERSION
TAKE OVER FOR
A WHILE?

TO BE CONCLUDED!

JAMES PATTERSON

MAX RIDE

NEXT:



YAS

